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Buffalo Pass Road to Close for Reconstruction

(STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo.) September 9, 2011 – Contract work on the Buffalo Pass Road (Forest Road 60) has been finalized by the Forest Service and reconstruction of the road will begin on Monday, Sept. 19.

Once work begins, the road will be closed to all users at the first gate and it is anticipated the project will take six to eight weeks to complete. Reconstruction will take place for three miles from the first gate. Improvements include culvert replacement, reconstruction of turnouts and a new gravel base.

This summer, the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears (HPBE) Ranger District was able to facilitate some short-term access along the road by opening to the second gate from the west side.

The popular road runs east-west through the Park Range and along the south boundary of the Mount Zirkel Wilderness.

Hunters and other users of the Routt National Forest are encouraged to make alternate travel plans this year if normal access to favorite areas is via the Buffalo Pass road on the Steamboat Springs side. The Park Range high country and Continental Divide can be accessed from the Walden side on County Road 24.

The Forest Service would like to emphasize that road projects such as this are a short-term inconvenience for long-term public safety.

For further information, call 970-870-2299 or stop by the HPBE Ranger District office in Steamboat Springs. Road closures and project activities may also be found at http://fs.usda.gov/mbr.

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